



Fair winds and following seas . . .

RADM Dan Kloeppe and his wife Debbie were each honored for their selfless service to our Navy, our Sailors and their families at events surrounding his change of command and retirement in New Orleans on 2 October 2004. Citations follow:

"The Chief of Naval Operations takes pleasure in presenting the MERITORIOUS PUBLIC SERVICE AWARD to Mrs. Deborah Ann Kloeppe in recognition of outstanding service from January 1997 to October 2004.

Mrs. Kloeppe worked tirelessly to improve the quality of life of military members and their families by volunteering countless hours to charitable organizations, family support groups and command functions. She was intimately involved in OMBUDSMAN programs, participated in and developed various media sources designed to educate military spouses, and gained corporate support for numerous quality of life enhancements for military families. An outspoken advocate for military spouses, she was the driving force in the establishment of the Military Spouse Corporate Career Network, developed to assist military spouses seeking employment, providing on-the-job training for those choosing to reenter the work force. Mrs. Kloeppe's compassion, steadfast initiative and outstanding dedication to the Navy family upheld the finest traditions of public service and reflected great credit upon herself, her family and the Department of the Navy."

Admiral Vern E. Clark, U.S. Navy



The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the DISTINGUISHED SERVICE MEDAL to Rear Admiral Daniel L. Kloeppe, United States Naval Reserve, for service as set forth in the following citation:

"For exceptionally meritorious service to the Government of the United States in duties of great responsibility while serving as Commander, Naval Air Force Reserve and Vice Commander, Naval Reserve Forces Command from July 2002 to October 2004.

Rear Admiral Kloeppe's inspirational leadership, superior vision, persistent drive, and flawless personal integrity have been the cornerstones of the unprecedented achievements of the Naval Air Force Reserve. He fostered a strong and effective foundation for increased support to the Fleet, further integrating the Navy's Air Reserve into the active component of the United States Navy. Rear Admiral Kloeppe's aggressive direction of Total Force assets resulted in the highly successful employment of sixteen Reserve Force Squadrons in support of Operations ENDURING FREEDOM, IRAQI FREEDOM and the ongoing Global War on Terrorism. With over 22,000 reservists providing continual support to these operations, he was responsible for maintaining the highest reserve readiness levels in recent history. Rear Admiral Kloeppe's superior performance of duties highlights the culmination of 34 years of honorable and dedicated service.

By his superior leadership, outstanding professionalism, and deep devotion of duty, Rear Admiral Kloeppe reflected great credit upon himself and upheld the highest traditions of the United States Navy."

For the President, Gordon England, Secretary of the Navy

Patriot Partner Exercise Turns Real

By CAPT (Sel) Al Szekretar, SC, USNR, CO, NR NAVAIRTERM 207

Each year, Navy and Air Force Reserve personnel participate in the Patriot Partner Exercise at the Navy/AMC Air Terminal, Norfolk, VA. Reservists from Naval Reserve (NR) NAVAIRTERM 107, NR NAVAIRTERM 207, NR NAVAIRTERM 307, NR NAVAIRTERM 609, the Air Force 50th Aerial Port Squadron, and 74th Aerial Port Squadron were included. From 3-17 July 2004, one hundred and ninety-two Reservists literally took over all operations from Operations Center duty officer, Passenger Service, Baggage/Mail and Cargo Handling, and Command personnel. Every function of the Terminal, including daily briefs, was conducted by Reservists. Although this year's exercise closely resembled prior exercises, a very special situation arose.

While fully engaged in day-to-day operations, the order was given to repatriate all dependents from Bahrain. This was mandated at the highest DoD levels and directed to have all civilians safely back in the United States in an expeditious manner. All civilians were to be processed in Norfolk and their point of entry was to be the Norfolk Navy/AMC Air Terminal. In addition to Patriot Partner Exercise duties, Reserve personnel swiftly reacted to this new and urgent demand. They orchestrated incoming flights and coordinated all functions that resulted in the smooth repatriation of five hundred dependents, over one hundred pets, and over forty thousand pounds of baggage.



Navy and Air Force Reservists off-load pets that were part of the repatriation of DoD dependents from Bahrain.

Officer in Charge of the exercise, Air Force Captain Sean Bathrick stated, "It was very fortunate to have this many Reservists here at the Air Terminal when these repatriation flights started arriving. The normal workforce would certainly have been strained if reserve support was not available."

In one instance, when the flight line was closed due to an earlier runway mishap, Reservists responded to an incoming Bahrain flight that was diverted to Langley AFB. Many off-duty Reservists volunteered to go to Langley to assist in passenger, pet, and cargo processing and assisted customs and agricultural officers.

In between all the excitement, Reservists also conducted two week classes in 60K Loader equipment. Two certified reserve instructors taught seven military and five Air Terminal civilian employees. By having the class conducted locally, tuition, travel funding, and disruption of work schedules were avoided.

Full time civilian Air Terminal Deputy Director Art Durietz stated, "It's always good to have Reservists come here and support us; but this time it was an absolute necessity to have them process all these dependents, pets, and baggage."

The entire exercise demonstrated that the seamless integration of the Navy and Air Force Reserve personnel into the Navy/AMC Air Terminal, Norfolk is a superb way to have units train towards mobilization while providing real support.